



U P D A T E

St. Lucie County

October 15, 2003

A Monthly Update of Current Events and Happenings within St. Lucie County

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This update is published monthly by the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners' Public Information Office. Direct inquiries to Linette Trabulsy, Public Information Officer, St. Lucie County, 2300 Virginia Avenue, Fort Pierce, FL 34982, 772.462.1791, 772.462.2131 Fax, Trabulsi@co.st-lucie.fl.us

Board of County Commission Meeting Changes for November 2003

- The Board of County Commissioners meeting for November 11, 2003 will be cancelled, due to the holiday.
- The November 18, 2003 Board of County Commissioners meeting will be changed to 9:00 am for the annual reorganization.
- The November 25, 2003 Board of County Commissioners meeting will be changed to 7:00 pm.

Meetings and Workshops Scheduled

- A Public Hearing is set for Oct. 28, 2003 at 1:00 pm in the Commission Chambers regarding Treasure Coast Tractor Services, Inc./Treasure Coast Land Clearing.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold a workshop on Nov. 12, 2003 at 2:00 pm in Conference Room 3 to discuss Airport Issues and Fixed Based Operator Development at the Airport.
- The Board of County Commissioners, the City of Fort Pierce and Fort Pierce Utilities Authority will hold a joint Conflict Resolution meeting on Nov. 24, 2003 at 9:00 am in the Commission Chambers.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold a workshop on Nov. 24, 2003 at 2:00 pm in Conference Room 3 to discuss Lakewood Park Stormwater Issues.

Federal Grant for River Park Marina Approved

St. Lucie County will receive a \$200,000 grant from the National Park Service Land and Water Conservation Fund. The grant will be matched by \$200,000 from St. Lucie County and will be utilized for improvements to River Park Marina in Port St. Lucie. These improvements include a rock revetment to stabilize the eastern shore of the island, a fishing pier, a mooring dock, a canoe launch, four picnic pavilions, a boardwalk that will complete a hiking trail on the southern end of the island and two observation decks along the hiking trail.

Library to Host Authors

Thurs., Oct. 30th at 3:30 pm ~ J. Stephen Brooks, guest storyteller and co-editor of "Sandspun, Florida Stories by Florida Tellers," at Lakewood Park Branch Library.

Sat., Nov. 1st from 1-4 pm ~ J. Stephen Brooks and Seminole Willie Johns storytelling concert featuring "Stories of Old Florida" at the Fort Pierce Community Center.

Sat., Nov. 22nd at 10:00 am ~ Meet Kate Birch, author of "Spring of Fever" and at 1:00 pm meet Ada Coates Williams, local historian and author of "Fort Pierce."

Outdoor Game Tables to be Purchased for Ilous Ellis Park

Parks and Recreation will purchase four game tables to be placed at Ilous Ellis Park for citizens to use for chess or checker games. The cost of the tables is \$2,986.20 and Park "A" Impact Fees will be used for the purchase.

Annual UDT Seal Muster Scheduled

The annual UDT Seal Muster will be held on November 8, 2003 at 11:00 am at the UDT Seal Museum on North Hutchinson Island.

Annual "Party in the Park" Set for November 8

The Annual "Party in the Park" will be held on November 8, 2003 from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm at Fort Pierce Inlet State Park. This event is sponsored by the Conservation Alliance of St. Lucie County, the Savannas Reserve Endowment and the Fort Pierce Inlet State Park. The theme this year is "Awareness – Education – Protection." Admission to the park is free that day.

Family Halloween Event Scheduled at the Oxbow Eco-Center

The Oxbow Eco-Center's first annual Halloween event, "The Haunting of the Oxbow," is approaching quickly! Mark your calendars for this "creepy" event on Saturday, October 25th from 2:00–5:00 pm. This event is a family-oriented, nature-themed afternoon of fun. It will include games, candy, pumpkin carving and a delightfully spooky "haunted trail!" Don't forget the other great events happening every month at the Oxbow: Nature for Families, Brown Bag Luncheon Series as well as Canoe and Kayak River Tours. Call 785-5833 for more info.

County Awarded Two FCT Grants

St. Lucie County was awarded two Florida Communities Trust (FCT) Department of Community Affairs Grants in the amount of \$2.9 million for land acquisitions. The first grant, in the amount of \$1,185,486, is for the Lakewood Park Regional Park which is part of the Capron Trail project. The 157 acre regional park will offer active recreation activities including soccer, baseball and swimming and passive recreation activities including a nature trail, picnic facilities and wildlife observation. The second grant, in the amount of \$1,725,000, is for the Ten Mile Creek West project. The purposes of the project are to extend the North Fork of the St. Lucie River Greenway, protect Ten Mile Creek and provide recreational opportunities.

Picos Road to be Paved

The St. Lucie County Commissioners approved the Picos Road Paving and Drainage project from Rock Road to King's Highway. They awarded the bid to the lowest complete bidder, Sheltra & Son Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$672,564.70. Work on Picos Road is scheduled to begin in November 2003 and be completed by February 2004.

Public Information Meeting Scheduled

The Treasure Coast Connector, the regional U.S. 1 public transit provider for St. Lucie and Martin Counties, will hold a public information meeting on Thursday, October 16, 2003 at 10:00 am at the Council on Aging of St. Lucie, Inc., 2501 S.W. Bayshore Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL 34984, Senior Campus Center. The purpose of the meeting is to review existing and new stops for the U.S. 1 Corridor presently being serviced by the Treasure Coast Connector and to provide the public an opportunity to comment. Transportation can be provided by contacting Community Transit 24 hours in advance of the meeting at 464-7433 (Fort Pierce) or 879-1287 (Port St. Lucie) or by contacting Community Coach 24 hours in advance of the meeting at 283-1814.

Marine Center to Host Second Annual Open House

On Saturday, November 15, 2003, the St. Lucie County Marine Center will host its second annual Open House from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm Admission to the Historical Museum and Marine Center will be free on that day. The Marine Center will feature musical entertainment, food, and many other activities for the celebration. In addition, the U.S. Navy Band, "Country Current," will perform at the museum at 3:00 p.m. Free shuttle service will be available from Lawnwood Stadium Park. For more information, contact Cynthia Becklund at (772) 462-3474.

Lawnwood Stadium to be Refurbished

The St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners approved the Parks and Recreation staff to go out for "RFQs" or Requests for Qualifications for the restoration of the Lawnwood Stadium Concrete bleachers. According to engineers from Mosby and Associates, the reconstruction of the stadium will cost approximately \$800,000 and funds will be used from the Parks Referendum revenue.

Property Boundary Survey to be Completed at Edwards Road and Selvitz Road

The intersection improvements at Edwards Road and Selvitz Road are one step closer to fruition. The Board of County Commissioners approved the firm of Kimley-Horn and Associates to provide property boundary surveys including field work and drafting. The intersection improvements include turn lanes and stormwater treatment. Construction of this project is funded in the Capital Improvement Program approved by the Board in 2002.

John Bruhn, District 1 • Doug Coward, District 2 • Paula A. Lewis, District 3 • Frannie Hutchinson, District 4 • Cliff Barnes, District 5

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